

Remarks

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the rejection and further examination are requested.

Claims 9-17, 22, 28 and 36 have been allowed. The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter.

Claims 32-35 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Sano (JP 2000-332296).

In order to expedite the prosecution of this application, claims 32-35 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein. As a result, all the pending claims are now allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that there are issues remaining which must be resolved before allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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